

**Workforce Development Committee Meeting
Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services
Hilton Norfolk - The Main
100 East Main Street, Norfolk, VA 23510
November 8, 2019
10:00a.m.**

Members Present:	Members Absent:	OEMS Staff:	Others:
Valerie Quick , Chair	Michael Colman , Richmond Ambulance Authority	Tim Perkins	
William “Gene” Dalton , WVEMS Council	Paul Hoyle , PEMS	Chris Vernovai	
Valeta Daniels , Advisory Board	Christopher Payne	Wanda Street	
Mike Watkins , VAGEMSA			
David Tesh , VA Recruitment & Retention Network			
Cody Jackson , Med-Trans Corp./Wings Air Rescue – Commercial Ambulance Member			
Byron Andrews , VSFA			
Dreama Chandler , VAVRS			

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Call to Order and Introductions	Valerie Quick called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.	
II. Review and Approval of August 1, 2019 Minutes	A motion was made to review and approve the August meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted. Everyone around the room introduced themselves.	August 1, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.
III. Chair’s Report – Valerie Quick:	Ms. Quick did not have a report at this time.	
IV. OEMS Report – Chris Vernovai	Chris Vernovai reported that the office renovation at OEMS was 99.99% complete. All staff is back in the office. Heather Phillips Greene, Warren Short, Bob Swander and Peter Brown have all retired. The ACE Division has absorbed the one employee left under the Division of Consolidated Testing and Video Production. There is an Accreditation Manager position open under ACE and Chris is not sure when the position closes. Adam Harrell has been promoted from Business Manager to Associate Director.	
V. EMS Officer – Chris Vernovai	The EMS Officer class is being held here at symposium and the initial registration was 30 and 24 participants showed up and completed the class. Three participants contacted Chris to drop the class. Chris was very impressed with one participant in particular. There were good reviews from the class and everyone is looking forward to Officer II. Chris Vernovai, Larry Oliver and Chris Payne taught the class. Bob Ryalls sat in because	

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	one of his courses got cancelled. Overall, it went well.	
VI. Standards of Excellence – Tim Perkins	Tim stated that there is not a lot to report. The original SOE agencies need to be revisited. The Emergency Services Assistance program, which will be renamed, needs to be marketed better and promoted more. Chris and Tim continue to receive emails from agencies who want to participate in SOE. The committee discussed ways to promote and incentivize SOE.	
VII. Virginia Recruitment and Retention – Dave Tesh	David Tesh reported that the next Virginia Recruitment and Retention meeting is February in Virginia Beach. The date and time will be forthcoming. The VR&R met last night but seem to be losing a little traction. Tim stated that he and Dave has talked about ways to use RSAF funding for events.	
VIII. Unfinished Business	<p>A. Keeping the Best Tool Kit – Dave Tesh A class was held at the First Responder and EMS Conference that was held in August in Hampton, VA. It was attended sparsely. John Bianco and Dave facilitated the class. They are averaging about 2 classes per year. They would like to double that. Tim stated that he and Dave has a list of things that they need to work on. Valeta asked if there are any measurable results from the class. A survey hasn't been done recently. Valeta stated that technology could be used to measure retention trends. She asked if other states are using this course. Dave stated that West Virginia was using it years ago.</p> <p>B. EMS Provider Survey – Chris Vernovai Still working on an appropriate time to get both of these surveys out. Tim stated that they are still working on the provider survey with R. Jason Ferguson. Tim discussed survey fatigue with OEMS sending out 5 or 6 different surveys per year.</p> <p>C. EMS Agency Survey – Chris Vernovai See above.</p> <p>D. State EMS Plan – Chris Vernovai The State EMS Plan was reviewed and approved by the Legislative and Planning Committee on October 23rd. This past Wednesday it was approved by the Advisory Board and will go before the State Board of Health in either December or March.</p> <p>E. DICO Clarification – Chris Vernovai/Valerie Quick Valerie stated that about a month and a half ago, she met with the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner to talk about the issues that surround drawing decedent blood. They have been very receptive about coming up with changes to meet the potential need for collecting the blood for testing. They are supposed to be coming up with recommendations. There was also discussion about legislation. At this point, the Office of EMS does have a way to get blood tested. There is no other agency that can test decedent blood for HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, which are the three main tests. The biggest recommendation coming out of this is to consolidate resources and streamline the process.</p>	
IX. New Business	Virginia EMS Jobs Website OEMS is looking to revamp the website. It is for volunteer and career EMS postings. Chris has referred a number	

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	<p>of agencies there when they ask about posting their vacancies. The goal is to make it more visible and accessible to everyone. It is currently on the Community Health and Technical Resources page.</p> <p>Mental Health Survey Vince Valeriano presented findings from the survey on Wednesday and it pointed out some recruitment and retention issues that the Provider Health and Safety Committee has discussed and are working on. Chris will try to get Vince to come to the February meeting to do the presentation. The committee discussed hiring concerns in both volunteer and career agencies.</p>	
X. Public Comment	None.	
XII. Adjournment	<p>The next meeting is February 6, 2020 at the Embassy Suites Hotel. Chris stated that it might be at 11:00 a.m. and not 10 a.m.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.</p>	